REMARKS

We refer to the Office Action dated 05/01/2007. Please find an amended set of claims, amendments to the specification and an amended abstract enclosed.

The independent claim 14 has been amended in that the features of claims 17-20 has been incorporated into claim 14 in a slightly rewritten form. Consequently, claim 17-20 have been cancelled. Independent claim 25 and dependent claim 22 have also been cancelled. The amendments have basis in the above mentioned claims, the drawings and the specification, page 6, line 1-18.

We have also changed the title, introduction to the specification and the abstract according to the examiners suggestion.

The examiner has cited four publications. US 3,275,223 (Fowell) discloses a fan with radial annular discs mounted on a number of tie rods 30 (four are shown in the figures) and the fan does not have a shaft on which the discs are mounted. Furthermore, the fluid is moved by shear forces acting on it by the rotating discs (see column 1, line 49-51). The fan of the present application is provided with projections on the sides of the discs in order to move the fluid, and thus uses a very different working principle for the fan.

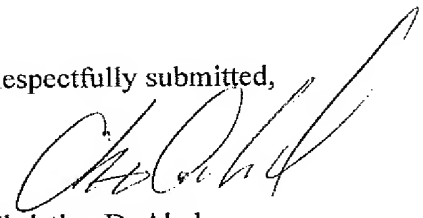
US 1,546,323 (Spowage) discloses a fan wherein the vanes are straight and extending from the shaft of the fan as opposed to the fan of the present invention. Furthermore, the air intake is axial, which is not suitable for a fan of the type of the present application where a number of fan bodies are mounted next to each other on a shaft.

US 5,536,140 (Wagner) discloses a fan where vanes are provided between two discs. The vanes are curved in a rearward direction as compared to the rotational direction of the fan (see figure 1) and again the vanes extend from the shaft to the circumference of the fan. It is uncertain where the air intake is, but there is no indication of an air intake in the housing such that air flow into the fan housing would be tangential. Since only the use of one fan body is disclosed, it is likely that the air intake is axial (from the side of the fan) which means that the fan would be unsuitable if a number of fan bodies where to be placed next to each other on the shaft.

US 1,328,679 (Leonard) discloses a fan or blower comprising paddle wheels mounted on a shaft and each paddle being provided in a separate compartment. Each paddle wheel has a sharp bend on the middle such that the paddle wheels are curved rearwards as compared to the rotational direction of the fan. The air inlet to the compartments is axial.

We believe that it would not be obvious for a skilled person to arrive at the fan of the present application. Even if a skilled person combined features from all the four publications, he would not arrive at a fan as defined in the amended claim 14. For instance, none of the cited publications disclose a disc-shaped fan body with vanes provided on both sides and vanes which are forwardly curved as compared to the rotational direction of the fan. We therefore believe that the fan of the present application, as it is defined in the amended independent claim is non-obvious and patentable over the cited publications.

Respectfully submitted,



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